## New York Tribune

First to Last-the Truth: News-Editorials -Advertisements Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

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#### The City as Bagholder

In the discussion of the subway problem and the relations of the city and of the public thereto there is a notable failure to dwell on one vital phase of the question. Whether by accident or design, this is unfortunate, for it leads to confusion and to the prevalence of the assumption that the contest over wages is between the company and its employes and that the contest over fares is between the company and the public.

The truth, however, is that the company, its bondholders and stockholders are not directly interested in either wages or fares. The controversy with respect to wages is between the employes and the city and with respect to fares between the passengers who use the subway and the city as a whole.

The financial relations of the city and the Interborough are founded on contract. Wishing to get more subways built and to secure a unified service, the city entered into contract with the Interborough company. The heart of this contract was that the old subways and the new should be linked in operation, with a single fare over the combined system. The city agreed (1) that the company should have a preferred lien on the combined income to cover its new investment, and (2) also a preferred lien to cover a return on the company's investment in the old subway.

Operating expenses were to be paid first, then the company's liens, and, lastly, the city was to get interest on its investment. Moreover, the company's preferences were cumulative; if the income in any year did not suffice to meet operating expenses and to pay to the company the agreed-on preferences, then the deficits, plus interest thereon, should rmet before the city gained any rental.

As it is probable that some day the company will be paid its preferences, the inancial question confronting the city is how much can be secured to pay the inerest on the city bonds issued for contruction. Heretofore the subway income has sufficed to recoup the city's reasury for what it paid to its bondcolders. But with high wages and low fares there is little hope of this. The prospect is that the city will be com-

bonds out of the proceeds of taxation. The city thus holds the bag. If the subway as a whole does not carry itself the city meets the bill. The subway bondholders and stockholders gave up prospective profits for a sure thing. They may be compelled to wait for their money, but the contract secures them.

Mayor Hylan, with Hearst at the telephone, has sought to make it appear that he is championing the interests of the many and hammering a rapacious corporation. But both the Mayor and his guide know better than this. Not ignorant of where the burden will land, they keep back their information because to emphasize it would not suit their present political plans.

#### The Philosophers of Bremen

Logic is logic, as the story of "The One Hoss Shay" proved; but there is such a thing as being too logical. It has been one of the weaknesses of the German mind to proceed from a false assumption to a wrong conclusion. Thus all the polemic literature that has come out of Germany for the past five years has failed to convince anybody not a German or a pacifist; the intellectual kinship of Germanism and pacifism is a phenomenon none will dispute. It has remained for some workmen at Bremen, however, to apply logic to life with relentless consistency. These men, being unemployed, have struck against employ-

It is not a question of wages. There is work for them in Belgium and France at forty marks a day and board-a sum that would once have been to them wealth beyond the dreams of avarice. But neither in the lands the German armies devastated nor on their home farms will they take up the shovel and the hoe. It does not appear just how they expect to live. If steady employment is a prime necessity elsewhere in Europe, It is difficult to see how it can be evaded in Germany, where an even heavier burden of beauty of logic: it may be pursued without regard to fact. If you can strike for higher wages, why can you not strike for no wages at all? How you are to live is a minor consideration.

There are occasions, of course, when it is a duty to loaf and invite your soul, though in view of present conditions this does not seem to be one of them. Perhaps the Bremen strikers are only looking

contended the modern laborer had lost. It was his theory that we produce too much, that we attempt to satisfy superfluous desires, that work has become a mechanical physical effort, not a craft with an artistic purpose behind it. There is something to be said for this theory, no doubt. Many have succeeded in carrying it to the extreme of living without working at all. But mankind as a whole cannot get along in this comfortable fashion. These hedonistic Bremen philosophers may conceivably have to choose between working and starving. The hours of labor have been shortened from time to time, and there is a loud demand still for a continuation of the process. No hours at all may be a logical condition; but logic, and especially German logic, has before this ended in a culde-sac.

#### The End of a Fraud

"The only new aspect of the situation that I learned at the White House," says Senator New, "was that the President was convinced that amendments to the league would not have to be passed upon by Germany."

For six months continuous attempts have been made to alarm the public by declarations that if the treaty was not flatly ratified it would be necessary to reassemble the Paris conference or to beg others to acquiesce in our interpretations. The latest hysterical outburst in this task, but as they do not the obligation city was a declaration that it would be necessary for us to go hat in hand to Weimar and beseech a defeated enemy to accept our terms.

Now the fraud of this species of appeal is practically acknowledged. A scarecrow was rigged up in the hope of creating fear. Now the stuffing is all out, and the stupidest crow would not be deceived. Face to face with other men, the President was unwilling to commit himself to silly predictions that Tumulty was permitted to circulate.

The business of ratifying with reservations needs not much longer to be delayed. The method of procedure is clear and substantial agreement has been reached as to what the reservations should contain.

#### The Gainers and the Losers

Here is a table, compiled from official figures, which shows the progression in the annual wages of the employes of the Steel Corporation and of the railroads:

Year.	U.S. Steel Corporation.	Rail- roads.	
1908	\$729	\$721	
1909	****** 776	658	
1910	***** 805	673	
1911		724	
1912		730	
1913	••••• 905	757	
1914	***** 905	810	
1915		826	
1916	1,042	886	
1917	1,296	1,004	
1918	1,685	1,400	
1919		1,505	

In the eleven years the average wages of the steel worker have advanced from \$729 to \$1,950, an increase of 160 per cent. During the same period the wages of railroad workers have advanced 110

Never was there so rapid an increase of wages affecting such masses of men. And the weight of statistical authority is that the advance has been at a faster rate than the advance in the physical set-up, good coordination, pre-place. elled to pay the interest on the subway cost of living. Food prices have kept pace with the rise in steel and railway wages (those of some commodities surpassing it), but food expenditure represents only 40 per cent of a normal family budget. Shelter cost, a most important item, has gone up the country over, probably not as much as 25 per cent. Many miscellaneous items, such as amusements, articles of luxury, etc., show increases of 50 per cent or less. The public utility companies, speaking generally, are largely getting the prices of eleven years ago because of limiting provisions in their franchises.

Turning to the production side the exhibit is a melancholy one, especially with the railroads. In the last year of private operation 1,800,000 employes moved three hundred billion tons of freight one mile at a labor cost of \$1,450,000,000. During the first six months of 1919 a larger force of men moved one hundred and fifty billion tons of freight one mile at a labor cost of approximately \$1,450,000,000.

Thus the enhanced wages brought a decrease of efficiency per man. The dogma of short-day advocates that high wages and a short working day lower labor costs per unit of production has been exploded.

In the passage from the twelve or eleven hour day to the ten or nine hour day speeding up and better machinery and methods permitted a net decrease in the labor cost. But the passage to the eight-hour day has not brought similar results. Somewhere between eight and nine hours reems the point

of maximum human efficiency. Inasmuch as war conditions have diminished normal production, and inasmuch as wages, if not paid out of current production, must represent duefts elsewhere, whence have come the sums paying the new wages? Some one has obviously been muleted. Who? One set of victims are the thrifty who have made savings to take care of their old ago or to transmit to their descendants. The country has 30,000,000 owners of debt is to be shouldered. That is one life insurance policies. They have paid in 100-cent dollars, and they stand to get back 50-cent dollars to the same number. Similarly 10,000,000 savings bank depositors get 50-cent dollars for 100-cent dollars. Similarly, every holder of an investment payable, principal or income, in dollars has been hit. Terrific has been the fine levied against the owners of capital. The very rich man

and of per cent of his income in direct

him shrunken in purchasing power. The small capitalist discovers his savings cut in two.

Associated with the savers and possessors are those elements of the population whose salaries or wages slowly change. Many of these are in great distress. The gains to the great body of agriculturists, to traders and to the aristocrats of the labor world have largely come from the clerkly classfrom policemen, firemen, teachers and the like.

It is highly important for our citizens to familiarize themselves with the data showing the incidence of the taxation which the 50-cent dollar levies, and also with the simple laws and principles that govern when there is a great change in dollar values. The general diffusion of knowledge is the best protection against the acceptance of quack remedies that will do harm rather than good. The appointed leaders of public opinion at Washington seem\_indisposed to take up this educating work; so far they have avoided frank and open statements such as President Cleveland had the courage to put forth in another period of economic stress. Such being the case, it becomes the duty of newspapers to take up the neglected work and to do the best they can to present sound and honest doctrine.

It would be much better if the President and his associates would lead in this must be taken over by others.

#### Education and the War

What the war taught us concerning education and how we can benefit by its lessons are discussed from an expert's point of view in a bulletin of the Federal Bureau of Education, written by Professor C. R. Mann, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who served as chairman of the Advisory Board on Education and Special Training of the War Department.

First of all comes the democratic principle that prevailed in the army-a man's capabilities were studied and determined, and his training based thereon: his family status or financial ability had nothing to do with the decision. Of course our present system does the same thing in a much more hit or miss fashion. No boy of real ability need lack for an education nowadays if he has the will to work for it. There is a healthy American sentiment to this end, and it usually sees that the boy goes to college or technical school, as he desires. It is the beauty of universal training that it automatically achieves this end as a matter of official routine.

Can the same democratic system be achieved by other means? Professor Mann suggests a persistent campaign, carefully organized in cooperation with the schools in every community, as a possible alternative. Perhaps this might work, but the ideal system would be a universal service long enough to permit a searching test of each youth upon a thoroughly democratic basis. Afterward it might be left to the communities to see that their young men receive the training their abilities entitle them to. At any rate each boy would know what he was fitted for and toward what he ought to bend his career.

Physical exercise and drill are next cision, promptness, self-discipline and the instinctive habit of doing one's best under all conditions," are the goals to be sought. A large order, it will be seen-almost the whole problem of education. Military training proved in the war to be a most effective means for accomplishing these ends, in Professor Mann's

Is there a substitute for peace times? It is suggested that the schools have not paid sufficient attention to these virtues and that by pursuing them, as does military training, might achieve them. Perhaps. But we think Professor Mann has missed an essential factor in the case. Any one who has ever attended a military school in peace time can assure Professor Mann that there is limited merit in military training as ordinarily taught. So far from teaching "the instinctive habit of doing one's best under all conditions," we should say that after it has taught a certain superficial alertness and precision it helps not at all to develop initiative or doing anything better than enough to "get by."

The truth is, we submit, that it was the great, all-stirring motive behind military service during the war that created its great educational value. There was eagerness to do one's best for one's country, there was a social enthusiasm that swept the dullest privates on to do better than their best. With the war's end came a slump which every officer will testify to. So the problem is not nearly as simple as Professor Mann states it. It is nothing less than to find in peace time a substitute for the great motive of patriotism fanned into flame by war-a moral equivalent for war, in short. Universal military training in a measure holds this same motive, and that is the strongest argument in its favor. Universal education utterly lacks this principle of enthusiastic service. Would public service upon great public undertakings create similar impulses? The question suggests the real problems involved in an effort to utilize the lessons of war

Postmaster Duties That sale of army food supplies through the parcel post will make every postmaster get a piggly-wiggle on himself.

Immune Neighbors

No longer can a revolution in one of those little banana republics hope to create -- en distance even the samblanes of .

# The Conning Tower

Lines Written on the Sunny Side of Frankfort Street Sporting with Amaryllis in the shade, (I credit Milton in parenthesis),

Among the speculations that she made

"When" - these her very words - "when you return, A slave to duty's harsh commanding call, Will you, I wonder, ever sigh and yearn

Doubt, honest doubt, sat then upon my brow. (Emotion is a thing I do not plan.) I could not fairly answer then, but now I can.

Yes, Amaryllis, I can tell you this, Can answer publicly and unafraid: You haven't any notion how I miss The shade.

As a resident member of the leisure class or rather, as one with a month's cardwe know, we think now, as much about the practice of that interesting tribe as Professor Veblen does about the theory of it. The Leisure Class, frinst, knows all the words of all the jazz songs, a knowledge that indicates a remarkable mnemonic gift. For the words are almost unrelated to each other, let alone to the sense-if any-of the song. With the melody the leisure class has more difficulty, as only one in five of the 1. c. can adhere to the key for more than

"The words," Dulcinea confided, "are silly, i know, but some of the songs are such peppy dance music. . . . It makes no difference which court I play in; I play equally rottenly in both. Ha! Ha!"

There are many Englishmen who think most Americans are natives of the Island

As to the island, we know little. But Broadway frequently looks like the Yappian

#### The Potted Mother Tongue

Sir: After going to and fro on the earth and walking up and down in it, I find among Americans a tendency to eliminate an internal k. Hence we hear, Broo'lyn, brea'fast. bla'berries but there is an h sound after

Most of yesterday was consumed in opening letters from those who wished to supplement the version, printed herein July 18, of what we thought was entitled "Abdullah" Buibul Ameer." The only printed version, with music, comes from Mr. Charles T. Allen. The song is called "Abul, the Bulbul Ameer;" it is published in 'The Scottish Students' Song Book, Edinburgh. The author of the words is not disclosed; the music was written, the copy says, by "Ali Baba." And the other man's name is Ivan Petrouski Skivah.

"If," writes a foolishly anonymous contrib, "the bobbed hair fashion had prevailed in the olden days, what kind of place do you think Lady Godiva would occupy in history?"

that he dropped it in or near the Lake Placid, N. Y., postoffice, on or about August 14, we shall reluctantly give it up at once.

It may be that the Groaning Board of to-day groans because it's dry.

The Higher Heroism [From The American Legion Weekly] More than 18,000 young women of France, England, Ireland and Scotland have come to our shores as citizens, as the brides of men who were in savigo. who were in service. These girls in their own way are as brave as the men they married.

"I am certain," Judge Mayer wrote Mr, Louis Fridiger, "that the people of New York are sick and tired of strikes, bickerings, misunderstandings and confusion." They are. But what Judge Mayer should have said was that the people of New York are sick and tired of strikes. For the rest of the world, too, and probably the people of Mars, Cassiopeid, and adjacent points, also are tired of bickerings, misunderstandings, and confusion. Bickerings, misunderstandings, and confusion are all that is wrong with the world; and, in a way, all that makes life the amusing irritation it is.

No one is reseive agenst whom there is any reasonabl fysical, moral, social or rase objection, or who wud be unwelcum to even a small minority. -- Advertisement of the Lake Placid Club

Any objection to old-fashioned spellers?

Jones Found Guilty of Subordination .--Asheville, N. C., Citizen. Thus rises Bolshevism in the South

Well, next summer there will be no daylight saving, so tennis reporters will be able to file their stories before nine o'clock; and the patience of the canoeing youth, who wendered this year and last whether it ever would get dark, will be under less strain.

Perhaps next winter there will be a strike of theatre audiences. Shorter hours should be the first demand, with abolition of the 20-minute intermission. And if the curtain doesn't rise within ten minutes of the announced time the audience shall walk out, admission money to be refunded.

A minimum wheeze-scale for musical comedies is another possible demand. No musical show should have fewer than four pieces of comparatively novel pleasantry an evening. . . This, as we read the proof. appears unreasonable; we foresee the Librettists' Union threatening us. All right; make it one joke to a show.

The telephone company, unlike the theatrical managers, pays its operators for time spent in rehearsals.

# Rumania Brings Crisis

By Frank H. Simonds

have occupied Temesvar as well as Budapest will surprise no one at all familiar alike with the temper of the Rumanian people and the conditions in the Near East. Before I left Paris Rumanian friends of mine indicated clearly that under no circumstances would the Latin state consent to resign its claims either to that frontier north of Transylvania which agreed with the Rumanian conceptions of justice, or to the natural frontiers of the Maros-Theiss and Danube, which surround the old Hungarian province of the Banat.

In occupying Budapest Rumanians found at least a colorable pretext in the continued refusal of the Hungarians to eliminate the Bolshevist government of Bela Kun, which was not entirely vitiated by the dramatic expulsion of Bela Kun when Rumanian troops were at the gates of Budapest The occupation of the Banat raises a different question. The province is disputed be tween the Serbs, who claim a part of it, and the Hungarians and the Rumanians, both of whom claim all of it. The largest single ethnic group is Rumanian, but it constitutes less than half the population, and there are large Magyar, German and Serbian minor-

#### The Tiger Writes Notes

It is one of the ironies of fate that Clemenceau, as spokesman for the conference at Paris, finds himself now adopting, in the case of Rumania, precisely the policy which, in his newspaper, he mocked and criticised when it was employed by President Wilson in the case of Germany. The spectacle of the "Tiger" writing "notes" to Rumania is almost enough to provoke Hometic laughter.

It is very difficult to bring home to the American people the real meaning of any thing so remote as an advance of a Rumanian army in the area of the old Hungarian state, and yet the fact is that this is of immense interest and concern to the American people, because it must necessarily compel the trial of the efficacy of precisely that new system which President Wilson, speaking for the United States government, has undertaken to impose upon Europe with a certain measure of success.

If the Rumanians can with impunity defy the vowel-it is really, I should say, the Paris conference, which is itself the temporary executive of the league of nations, and occupy those regions and terri- | League Is Failing That tendency is found, we believe, only | tories which they claim without regard to in the vicinity of New York. The ck pre- the aspirations and rights of other nationceding I, for New Yorkers, appears to be alities, and with equal disregard for the dedifficult to pronounce, as difficult as the t cisions of the Paris conference, then not in fighting or waiting-words which many only is the failure of the league of nations New Yorkers make almost fighding or waid- idea become apparent, but the Rumanian example is a plain invitation to all the other peoples who have armies and aspirations to go and do likewise.

We told the French, having for our declaration British support, that they must not permanently occupy the military barrier of the Rhine. They replied by insisting that we give them instead an American guarantee, along with the British promise, to come to their aid without question if they were attacked by Germany.

#### League Held Paramount

So far as Mr. Wilson could be gave that pledge. We next encountered nationalist demands at Fiume, and President Wilson appealed over the heads of the Italian gov- of self-determination one-quarter as much ernment to the Italian people, with the re- as does the Italian annexation of the Ger- find no record of his application, but that sult that the Italian people rallied behind man-speaking Tyrol and the Slavophone distheir government and still stand firm in tricts in the hinterlands of Trieste or the give it their very earnest consideration." stressed by Professor Mann. "A fine We'd play Lady Godiva to win, and Eve for their demand to add Fiume to their country. Japanese acquisition of Shantung. We must In the presence of a conflict between the Japanese and the Chinese in the matter of our enemies a few months ago, in expelling consideration," but never any action, what If the owner of the excellent pen this is Shantung, where all the moral rights were Rumania from Hungary, with the certainty written with will call at this office and prove | with the Chinese, we departed from our previous course and surrendered to the Japanese, because President Wilson felt that the league of nations was of more importance | Rumanian army they will seek to enforce than any single detail of international rivalry and believed that Japan would follow Italy in defying the award of Shantung to China and, with the Italians, renounce the whole league of nations experiment.

We next encountered nationalism in Hungary, combined this time with Bolshevism, which now inhabit the eastern part of Pay. After some delay I located the quarter when the Hungarian people refused to throw off Bolshevism as long as only moral influences were exerted, but promptly ap-

THE announcement that Rumanian troops | pealed to the Paris conference when Rumanian armies intervened; while the Rumanians, in their turn defying the Paris conference, proceeded to take what they had claimed without regard to the several notes emanating from Paris and signed by Cle-

It is apparent, then, that in every case where the league of nations idea and the conference of Paris decisions have encountered nationalism the result has been compromise violating the essential principles of the league of nations, as in the case of Shantung, a deadlock, as in the case of Fiume, or, in the latest case, a deliberate defiance and an appeal to force.

#### A Ridiculous Situation

Now, it is apparent that this sort of thing cannot go on without reducing the whole league of nations proposal to nothing short of a ridiculous position. The American Senate seems inclined to repudiate the pledge given by President Wilson to France, and if it does France will be free to stay on the Rhine. The Italians have not the smallest intention of abandoning Fiume, the Japanese purposes in Shantung are at least \$400 interest bill that each man had a undisclosed, the Rumanians are stopping in sumed. If his bonus reached \$900, it would Budapest and still advancing in the pay the interest and the principal in about Banat, while the Poles, the Lithuanians, the | fifteen years. In other words, if the figures Bulgarians, the Greeks, to mention only a offered by the trainmen are correct, the few other nations and races, are more and trainmen could buy the railroads on credit more tending to rely upon force rather than and pay for them out of the property upon abstract moral principles for the as- earnings. The railroads would be the

Actually, and the thing must soon be apparent to everybody, the conference of Paris s failing in the face of the nationalism of the hour, precisely as President Wilson buy the railroads themselves, it shows the failed in the presence of Germany at war in the matter of the submarines. Notes and to the extent of risking \$400 on it. And ultimatums, language unaccompanied by if the trainmen are too fexy to risk a few force, are achieving as little now as then. In the end we had to go to war with Germany or get off the ocean. Now, at no dis- | 000,000? tant time the nations that, up to the pres- Buy 'em yourselves, boys, buy 'em your ent moment, constitute the league of nations will have to use force against Italy C. L. EDSON, and Rumania, against Greece, and not im probably against Poland, Serbia, Turkey and various other states, to compel them to sur render what they believe to be their sacred and historic rights, or abdicate and let quarrels, which are at least old-fashloned, be settled by methods which are even more

Moreover, and this point is of equal importance to the American people, there is a growing feeling in France-as there is a positive conviction in Italy and unconcealed determination in Rumania-to recognize the failure of the league of nations principle and revert to the direct methods of the The peace conference at Paris, still functioning on the lines laid down by the league of nations covenant, has just about reached the point where it has discovered that the only way to make permanent a peace founded on approximate justice is to be prepared both physically and morally to fight all the time.

Rumania, that we were wont to sneer at league of nations idea openly and directly | and on April 12, 1918, died of pneumon ambitions which, on the whole, must excite sympathy in many quarters and in no single insurance, as she had heard nothing from instance represent a violation of the rights that if the Hungarians get to Bucharest they will repeat their former excesses and that if, in company with us, they defeat the claims even more unrighteous than those the Rumanians are enforcing, or we must abdicate. We must confess that the league of nations theory won't work in a world as obstinate as the present and among people as confirmed in their nationalism as those

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#### The Loveliest Letter

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: F. P. A. has an extraordinary fascination for me. It's the strangest thing. Ordinarily I am not enthusiastic about things one reads in the papers. Newspapers are prosaic things, after all-don't you think so? Of course, I am excepting The Tribune. It is really the loveliest paper. It has the human touch-I think that's really it. And you know, one must be human nowadays. One must be natural. The world is so upset now, such strikes and riots.

I was saying to my friend only last night that I thought it was the war that has upset the world so. Things never used to be like this before the war. And he said that perhaps it was a good thing after all, because the world needed upsetting. He says the most profound things at times. But it really is a joy to be alive, sometimes the thought of it makes me so happy -even though things are a little unpleasant sometimes, I think we should all grin and bear it, as the saying goes. But I was talking about The Tribune.

You don't mind if I make a few suggestions, do you? Don't you really think you give too much space to political affairs? Sometimes I am so angry-the paper is almost full of long, dry accounts of discussions in Congress, and perfectly uninteresting notices from foreign countries one doesn't care a thing about. Of course I know you have to fill up space with something.

But as I said before, I simply adore F. P. A. I think he draws the sweetest pictures. I laugh so sometimes that my friend rebukes me-he is the most serious thing. I think F. P. A.'s picture called "Oh, Men." is the best. You wouldn't expect a girl to enjoy such a hearty masculine humor, but I am so many-sided. I do hope you won't think I am impertinent for criticising The Tribune.

### The Merry Proofroom

To the Editor of The Tribune, Sir: God and all these kind words anent

F. P. A., Briggs, H. Broun, Ding, H. U., etc., clude proofroom and all other perils besetting words in newspaper offices. Even though thirty years of age and on my first well paid job, they keep me young that is, when the shopmen deign to fix up a locomotive so that it can carry one's favorite newspaper as far as Springfield by luncheon time. As for my better half, no + 11 more soothing experience could be imagined for a T. B. M. than to hear her voice change from the prevish whine begotten of washing too many dinner dishes to a gentle late-Smith-College purr as she reads aloud her-and my-preferred passages.

But while engaged in hurling rose petals at such enticing targets, I should hate to miss the faithful old copy reader who every fortnight or so comes out with some-

DOG SHOW FEATURES WEEK-END AT NEWPORT

Miss Sylvia Hillhouse, Third Debutante of Season, Is Presented.

Last time it was about the youth who lost his motor license because he hit some thing-or was it somebody?-while driving with "one hand on the steering wheel and the other around a girl"; and if I could remember all his little quips of the past two years, I could fill the column 'n every-

Give him a raise, but never a vacation. HAROLD. Springfield, Mass., Aug. 18, 1919.

#### The Strongest To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: "Quitting Vital Services" and "Amending the Treaty" justify me again in declaring to my friends that The Tribune, regardless of frequent unjustified partisanship, is by far the strongest editorial peri-I do adore it, and I simply had to write odical in the United States. Thank you for be in the form of checks or money orders C M STEVENS

### Buy 'Em Yourselves

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The railroad brotherhoods have set. mitted their proposition to the public. As a member of the public, in good standing I beg to acknowledge theirs of recent data and in reply would say that the public his a counter proposition to offer.

The brotherhoods propose that the pel lie go into its pocket for \$20,000,000,00 at 4 per cent and buy the railroads at give them as a present to the trainme The trainmen further assert that they o operate the roads at a profit, and will profit, a fat piece of profit in their pockets. The public declines the offer, but makes the generous offer of its own:

Let the trainmen buy the railroads thes. selves and then make that profit on their own investment. They number 2,000,60 men, they say. If each man puts up \$15. 000, either in cash or credit, the sum \$20,000,000,000, and the railroads are their Four per cent on \$10,000 is \$400 a year, It will take only \$400 from each railrest brother, yearly, to make his group the owner of the railroads. They claim the under their management the profits work be so great that when they were divide half and half with the public, the train men would each receive from \$600 to \$900 bonus for his skill.

This \$600 bonus yearly would pay the in fifteen or twenty years without costs you'll ever buy anything these days. they don't take up this proposition as don't believe their own dope-at least ag dollars on their own scheme why should the public come in to the tune of \$20,000,

Member of the Public

New York, Aug. 19, 1919.

#### Muddled Insurance

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Administration's organizations.

Sir: In connection with the letters from Mr. Taylor and Major Hackett, recent printed, concerning Victory buttons, genen inefficiency, etc., I should like to give ye the facts in my controversy with the Bure of War Risk Insurance, to me the me typical Burlesonization of any of the presen

My brother took his examinations for the Regular Army in July, 1917. Tired of was ing to hear from them, he enlisted in the Ground School of Aviation at the Bosts Tech. While there he applied for \$10.00 insurance, in favor of my sister. From the he went to Mineola, was commissioned the Coast Artillery Corps, went to Fortre five years ago, has now challenged the whole | Monroe, where he was stationed all winter and proceeded by force of arms to realize at our home in Wellesley, Mass. In Jun

> onsideration," but never any action, which came with every letter, were, to speak mildly, exasperating. In October I became personnel adjutant of my own regiment and began to learn something of the hopelessness of getting any thing but errors, delays and bunk from that bureau. One of their bulletins said that is surance would be paid, in the absence & application, on a certificate that the primiums had been deducted from the soldiers master who had done this, and sent the required certificate to the bureau on January

> come to paying my sister any part of the approximately \$0.00 new due her. It so happens that the money is not nece sary to my sister's existence. It would make no difference to the bureau if it were. One of their letters had the impudence to state that my sister had been looked up, that my brother had never contributed to her support and that, therefore, she was not entitled to any compensation from the government It is needless to state that neither of W

I signed with relief. It is now August, sit-

teen months after my brother's death, and

that last promise is as near as they have

glad to have this published, and if anybody wishes to question any of my statements he may attempt it. I have the letters and

the facts, in black and white.

Is it any wonder that things are in a muddle - the peace conference, the league of nations, Mexico, the air service, insurance the railroad administration, anything and everything else? May God preserve as all, for nobody clse will. P. W. INGRAHAM. Washington, D. C., Aug. 15, 1919.

#### Fighting for Us To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I hope you will find it possible to publish the following copy of a cablegram recently received by me, and that some of your readers may feel prompted to contribute. These men are fighting for America and the whote civilized world against Bolshevism and destruction, as well as for their own country. The writer, Count M. M. Perovsky, is a member of the Russian Legation in Norway. I have known him and his family thirty years and can youth

"Christiania. Rodsianko army now fighting on Petrograd front sadiy want money. medicines, dressing material, everything Appeal to you. Could not fund be raised money being sent me? Anticipated, best thanks. - PEROVSKY."

I shall be glad to acknowledge and for ward any money sent to me, which should TOADUL P HAPGOOD.